

FWP COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: February 16, 2012

Agenda Item: 2012 – 2013 Elk Hunting Seasons, Quota Ranges and HD Boundaries

Division: Wildlife

Action Needed: Approval of Final Rule

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 60 minutes

Background

Season structures and hunting district boundaries are adopted biennially for all game species. This happens every other year between December and Final adoptions in February. In proposing regulations to the FWP Commission, FWP proposes existing structure except for specific changes. Proposals are based on population status and/or other circumstances.

For the 2012 and 2013 elk season structures, proposed changes include reducing antlerless harvest in parts of Regions 1, 2 and 3.

For all FWP proposed changes that include proposed adjustments from the Commission adoptions in December please see FWP Commission Master List for February 2012 meeting.

Public Involvement Process & Results

Elk season comments received included interest in more conservative harvest opportunities for antlerless elk on public lands in some areas and diverse inputs relative to elk archery. Public comment ran thru 5 p.m., Monday, Jan. 23, with comments forwarded to FWP staff and the FWP Commission. Any final adoptions will take place at the Feb. 16 commission meeting.

Alternatives and Analysis

Proposals may be adopted as proposed, with adjustment, with additions, with deletions or no change from 2011 (status quo). No change would challenge the supporting justifications behind proposals.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale

Rationales for individual proposals have been included in Commission information packets and may be further articulated at the Feb. 16 commission meeting.

Proposed Motion

I move the commission adopt the final 2012 and 2013 Elk Hunting Seasons and Hunting Districts as proposed by FWP.